

June is National Safety Month: Tornado Safety Tips

In Kansas, more tornados occur in June than any other month.

According to recommendations from the National Weather Service: Do not attempt to drive away from a tornado because winds can approach 200 mph and tornados can travel from 10 to 200 miles, causing extensive damage and destruction along their route.



When a tornado has been sighted take cover immediately inside buildings - basements, designated storm shelters, interior rooms and hallways are the safest place. Always stay away from windows during a storm. If you are in a vehicle, trailer, or mobile home and there is no shelter nearby, lie flat in a ditch, ravine, or culvert with your hands shielding your head. Overpasses are not safe shelters from tornadoes because of airborne debris.

If you are at work during a tornado, follow the established office safety and evacuation procedures.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment headquarters at the Curtis State Office Building in Topeka has designated locations to protect employees during a tornado alert. Always follow the directions of the designated safety captains during an emergency situation. KDHE employees can learn more about these procedures on the agency's intranet Web site.

Tornado safety-related Internet links:

<http://www.nws.noa.gov/om/tornado.pdf>

<http://www.fema.gov/MIT/tsf01-.htm>

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